



Serial No. 10/609,097

### **REMARKS**

#### **Restriction Requirement**

Applicants herein acknowledge the restriction requirement in the above-referenced application. Claims 1-26 are currently pending in the application. The Office has identified the following groups of claims as being drawn to separate inventions:

Group I – claims 1-22, drawn to methods of designing masks having sidelobe inhibitors across or at interference ring intersections (claims 1-18, processes) and a computer readable media having computer-executable instructions (claims 19-22, means therefore), classified in class 716, subclass 19.

Group II – claims 23-26, drawn to a mask (product), classified in class 430, subclass 5.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-22, without traverse.

#### **Please Note Information Disclosure Statement**

Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to the Information Disclosure Statement filed with the Office on August 4, 2003, and respectfully request that the documents or other information referenced therein be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of the PTO/SB/08 form be returned to the undersigned attorney evidencing same.

Should any of the documents, or portions thereof, be unavailable to the Examiner for any reason, please contact the undersigned attorney, who will supply same immediately by facsimile or other suitable method of delivery.

#### **Oath or Declaration**

Applicants herein acknowledge the objection to the oath or declaration in the above-referenced application. Submitted concurrently with this response is a newly executed Supplemental Declaration correcting the state of residence for the second listed inventor, Husayn Alvarez-Gomariz.

**CONCLUSION**

An early Office Action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Johanson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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